



INSPECTION DEPARTMENT
Main tower expansion joint ( North ) only. Inspection report No 318.
DATE. 09/02/11

(BC06)

REPORT No 318.

DATE: 09/0211 to 09/02/11.

MAIN TOWER EXPANSION JOINTS ( North only )

A visual inspection of the North main tower expansion joints was carried out on the above date, Information and current status as follows.

**Information. :** It should be recorded that new under deck access to the main-tower expansion joints was installed during 2010. It should also be recorded that a new expansion joint plate train failsafe system was installed to eliminate the possibility of any type of failure that could occur through plate movement that may create an emergency situation at any time . This was installed following a decision that was taken informing us that their would be no replacement contract as was originally incorporated in the capital plan for replacement of the main tower expansion joints. It should also be recorded that there are tube & fitting bracers located in every cell which require to be removed. There are also off-cuts of T & F & fixings located on cell edges and some cells contain rubbish which requires to be removed.

**Structural steelwork. :** All steelwork generally remains in a satisfactory condition.

**Structural fixings. :** All fixings remain intact and secure .Protective covering breakdown evident on bolt heads , medium to heavy corrosion evident at time of inspection.

**Pins & bushes . :** located in plate ends remain in a continued state of deterioration.

**Pins & springs. :** All springs and pins located on Rocker plates , and tongue plates replaced at all locations following installation of new plate failsafe system. All fixings remain in a satisfactory condition.

**Surface plates. :** Surface plate located above cell ME2. Perimeter steel plate suffering from wear-down. During inspection slight noise of possible damage indicated. On inspection from above suspicions confirmed. Transverse weld crack located East to West approx 80 mm on east side. ( Photographs recorded and given to maint inspector for repair to be carried out on next southbound closure. )

**Spring dimensions. :** Spring dimensional check carried out on all newly fitted rocker plate & tongue plate springs. All remain in a satisfactory condition. Slight paint breakdown evident at time of inspection. ( Survey sheet attached )

Bridge Inspector .

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Bracer scaffold tube & fixings remain located between cell radius arms in every cell located on main-span & side-span. require to be removed.



Rubbish & plastic bags located in cells, require to be cleaned out



Tube & fitting off- cuts & fixings located on cell ledges , require to be removed.



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Surface plate located on main-span east. Damage and wear – down evident, Transverse weld crack approx 80- 100 mm .Requires to be repaired.



Surface plate located on main-span east. Damage and wear – down evident.